

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:420

ANSWERED ON:24.08.2005

INCREASING EFFICIENCY CAPACITY OF PORTS

Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has worked out plans for expanding port capacity and improving quality of port services to meet the rapid rise in foreign trade;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds earmarked therefor;
- (d) the time by which the expansion programme is likely to be launched;
- (e) whether the Government is also seeking private participation in the development of ports;
- (f) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and
- (g) the measures proposed to be undertaken for the overall increase of efficiency/capacity of ports?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.420 FOR ANSWER ON 24.8.2005 RAISED BY SHRI JIVABHAI AMBALAL PATEL AND SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB REGARDING INCREASING EFFICIENCY/ CAPACITY OF PORTS. -

(a) to (g) Capacity expansion in major ports is a part of the on-going process of their development, keeping in view the demands of maritime trade. The focus in the major ports during the Tenth Five Year Plan period (2002-07) is on improving productivity through technological upgradation, provision of cost effective services and enhancement of service quality. At the end of Ninth Plan period on 31.3.2002, the aggregate capacity in major ports was 343.95 million tonnes per annum (MTPA). It is planned to achieve an aggregate capacity of 470.60 MTPA in the major ports by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan on 31.3.2007. Thus, capacity addition of 126.65 MTPA is envisaged during the Tenth Five Year Plan in major ports.

An amount of Rs.4531.29 crores has been allocated for development including expansion and modernisation of major ports in Tenth Plan. This includes Rs.3325 crores for projects which will add to the capacity in major ports. This, however, does not include private sector investment in major ports.

The schemes for development of the major ports include deepening of channels to facilitate berthing of large size vessels, construction of new berths, upgradation/expansion of existing berths, modernization of cargo handling equipments through fresh procurement as also upgradation/replacement of existing equipments, improvement in storage capacities, upgradation of internal circulation systems for smooth cargo movement within the port area, improved rail and road connectivity to hinterland, etc.

Participation of private sector in expansion and development of the major ports has been sought in order to mobilize the resources required for the purpose and in order to improve efficiency, productivity and quality of service as well as bring in competitiveness in port services in consonance with the general policy of liberalization/globalization of India's economy. So far, 19 projects involving an estimated investment of Rs.6445.20 crores by the private sector have been approved out of which 13 projects have been operationalised.